

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STR-04 COME-00 LAB-04
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SIL-01 FEA-01 AGRE-00
CEA-01 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INT-05 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /101 W
-----030420 115362 /20

R 021658Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6079

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: MFA RENEWAL

REF: (A) STATE 38558, (B) BONN 3380

1. ECON/COMM MINISTER CONVEYED U.S. VIEWS AS SET FORTH
REF A TO ECONMIN ASST. SEC. STEEG ON MARCH 1. HE
EXPRESSED U.S. APPRECIATION FOR FRG EFFORTS TO FIND AN
ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY, AND STRESSED
U.S. BELIEF THAT CHANGES IN THE MFA ARE NOT NEEDED TO
PROTECT IMPORTING COUNTRY INTERESTS. FRAU STEEG
INDICATED THAT FRANCE AND THE UK IN PARTICULAR STILL
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BELIEVE THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO NEGOTIATE MFA
AMENDMENTS WITH LDC PRODUCERS AT AN ACCEPTABLE COST.
MINISTER FRIDERICHs DISCUSSED MFA RENEWAL WITH FRENCH
MINISTER ROSSI DURING THE FRANCO/GERMAN SUMMIT TWO WEEKS
AGO, AND SINCE THEN THE FRG HAS TRIED AT THE EXPERT
LEVEL TO BRING THE FRENCH AROUND. FRAU STEEG WONDERED
WHETHER THE U.S. FOR ITS PART COULD NOT MAKE GREATER

EFFORTS TO CONVINCE THE BRITISH TO TAKE A MORE LIBERAL STANCE, IN VIEW OF THE TRADITIONAL SPECIAL RELATIONS EXISTING BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE UK. THE ECON/COMM MINISTER NOTED THAT THE U.S. IS CONVEYING SIMILAR ARGUMENTATION TO THE UK AND OTHER EC MEMBERS CONCERNING MFA RENEWAL, BUT HE ASSURED FRAU STEEG THAT HE WOULD CONVEY TO WASHINGTON HER SUGGESTION THAT WE MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT WITH THE BRITISH.

2. HERR KUEHN (ECONMIN) WHO TOOK PART IN THE CONVERSATION, FORESAW THAT FOR INTERNAL REASONS THE FRENCH AND BRITISH WOULD HAVE TO DEFEND THEIR PRESENT POSITIONS AT THE MARCH 8 FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL. THUS HE DID NOT SEE ANY CHANCE FOR REACHING A COMMUNITY POSITION AT THIS MEETING. HOWEVER, HE HOPED THAT A RATHER FREE DISCUSSION WOULD TAKE PLACE, WHICH MIGHT CREATE A BETTER ENVIRONMENT FOR COMPROMISE LATER IN THE MONTH. DEPENDING ON THE OUTCOME OF A FURTHER ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS AMONG THE NINE LATER IN MARCH, KUEHN THOUGHT THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR THE EC TO HAVE A BILATERAL EXCHANGE WITH THE U.S.

CASH

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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